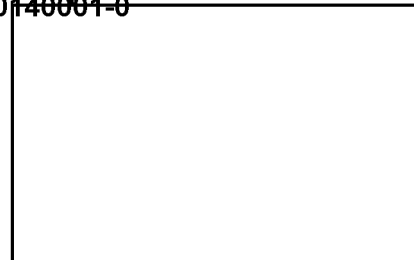




Director of
Central
Intelligence

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National Intelligence Daily

Friday
16 February 1979

State Dept. review completed

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Contents

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Briefs and Comments



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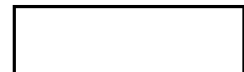
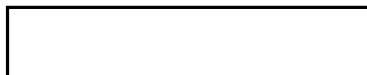
Zaire: <i>Security Steps</i>	7
Namibia: <i>New Obstacles to UN Settlement</i>	8



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Overnight Reports	17
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The Overnight Reports, printed on yellow paper as the final section of the Daily, will often contain materials that update the Situation Reports and Briefs and Comments.



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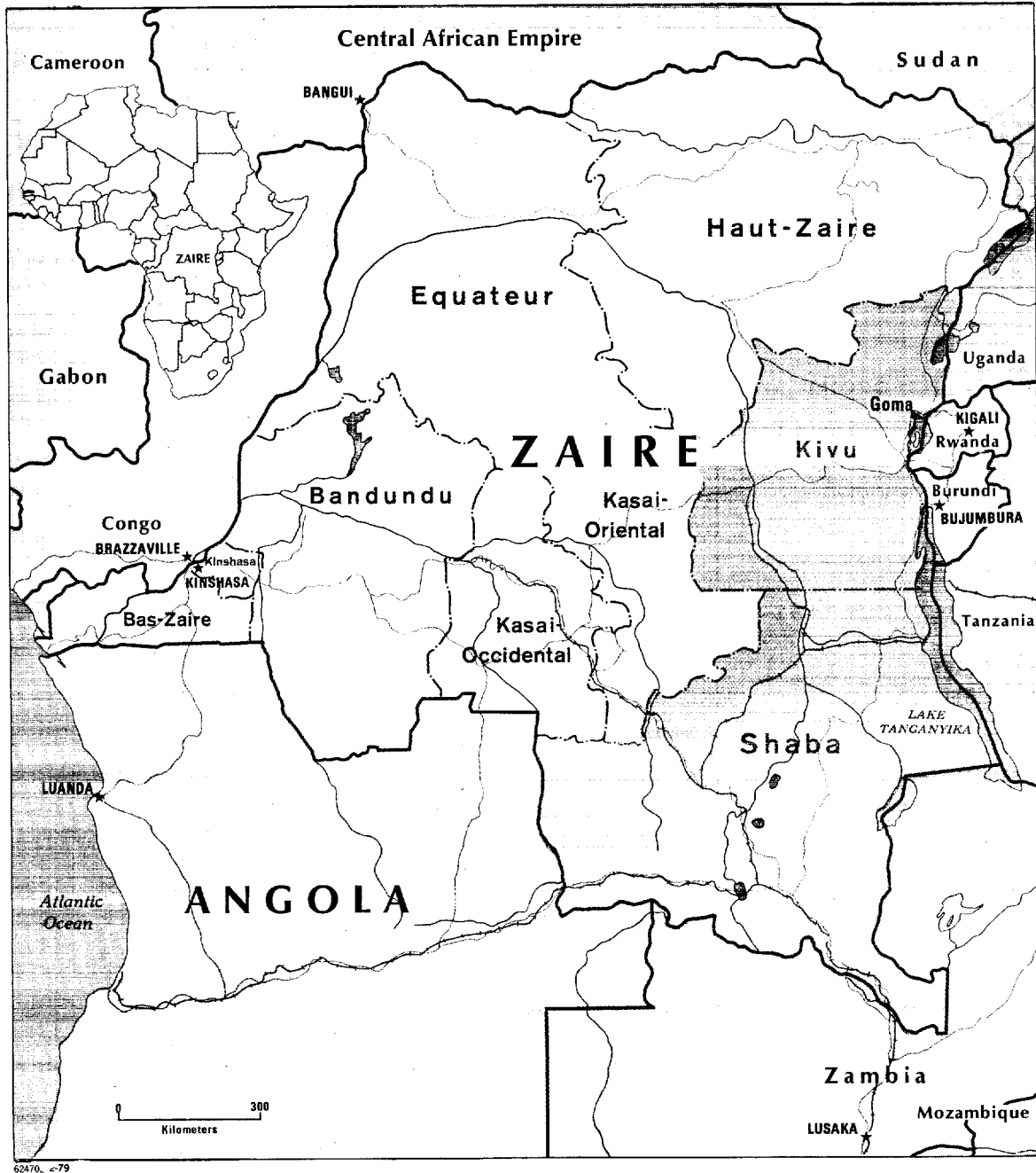
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ZAIRE: Security Steps

Zaire is taking steps to improve its security in reaction to continuing reports that foreign-based dissidents will soon attempt to topple the government of President Mobutu. We have no firm information on the numerical strength of the rebel groups, but they are probably small--perhaps no more than a few hundred.

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[REDACTED]

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President Neto of Angola and Zambian President Kaunda are to arrive in Kinshasa today for a weekend summit with Mobutu. The prime topic of discussion probably will be security matters. Mobutu still believes that rebels in Angola and Zambia pose a threat to his government.

[REDACTED]

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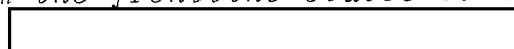
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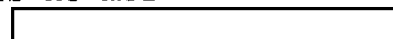
NAMIBIA: New Obstacles to a Settlement

New demands by the South-West Africa People's Organization seem to dash any hope that cease-fire arrangements acceptable to all parties in the Namibia dispute can be completed by 26 February, the target date the parties had accepted for starting deployment of a UN peacekeeping force in the territory. SWAPO may come under strong pressure from the frontline states to moderate its latest demands.



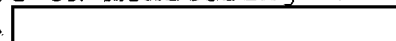
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Last week, SWAPO President Nujoma submitted the new set of demands to Martti Ahtisaari, UN Secretary General Waldheim's special representative for Namibia. SWAPO now wants to shift thousands of guerrillas from Angola and Zambia to Namibia in order to set up five new bases that would remain intact--under UN monitoring--throughout the transition. SWAPO probably now has no more than a few hundred guerrillas inside Namibia.



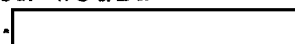
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On Tuesday night, according to the South African military command, about 250 SWAPO guerrillas attacked a South African military base more than 10 kilometers inside Namibia. The attack may have been intended to "prove" SWAPO's claim that it has a large guerrilla force inside Namibia and therefore should retain bases there during the transition to independence. The South African reaction, however, suggests that it will harden South Africa's insistence on effective UN monitoring of SWAPO bases inside Angola and Zambia.



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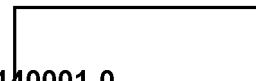
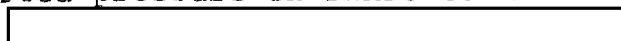
Ahtisaari told US representatives at the UN this week that leaders of the African frontline states had assured him during his recent visits that they are ready to support implementation of the UN transitional program for Namibia. The Angolan and Zambian leaders balked at the idea of accepting UN troops on their territory to monitor SWAPO camps, but Ahtisaari surmised that they might accept some arrangement in which the UN would verify their own efforts to enforce a truce.



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Tanzanian and Botswanan leaders have called for a meeting of frontline presidents on Namibia; such a meeting could result in concerted pressure on SWAPO to moderate its latest demands.



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Next 7 Page(s) In Document Exempt

Approved For Release 2004/07/08 : CIA-RDP79T00975A031100140001-0

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OVERNIGHT REPORTS

(The items in the Overnight Reports section have not been coordinated within the intelligence community. They are prepared overnight by the Office of Current Operations with analyst comment where possible from the production offices of NFAC.)

Iran

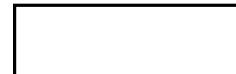
According to late press reports, the Iranian Government this morning executed four generals who had been prominent figures under the Shah. Those executed were: Nematollah Nassiri, a former chief of SAVAK; Manuchehr Khosrodad, an Army Aviation Commander; Mehdi Rahimi, formerly the Martial Law Commander of Tehran; and Martial Law Commander Naji, of the central Iranian province of Isfahan. The four men were reportedly executed by firing squad at Ayatollah Khomeini's headquarters in south Tehran.

Pakistan

Former Prime Minister Bhutto was granted a stay of execution Wednesday when the Supreme Court agreed to allow his lawyers more time to prepare a review petition, according to the US Embassy in Islamabad. Bhutto will remain in Rawalpindi jail until a formal hearing on the petition, now set for 24 February. President Zia still vows that he will "carry out the law."


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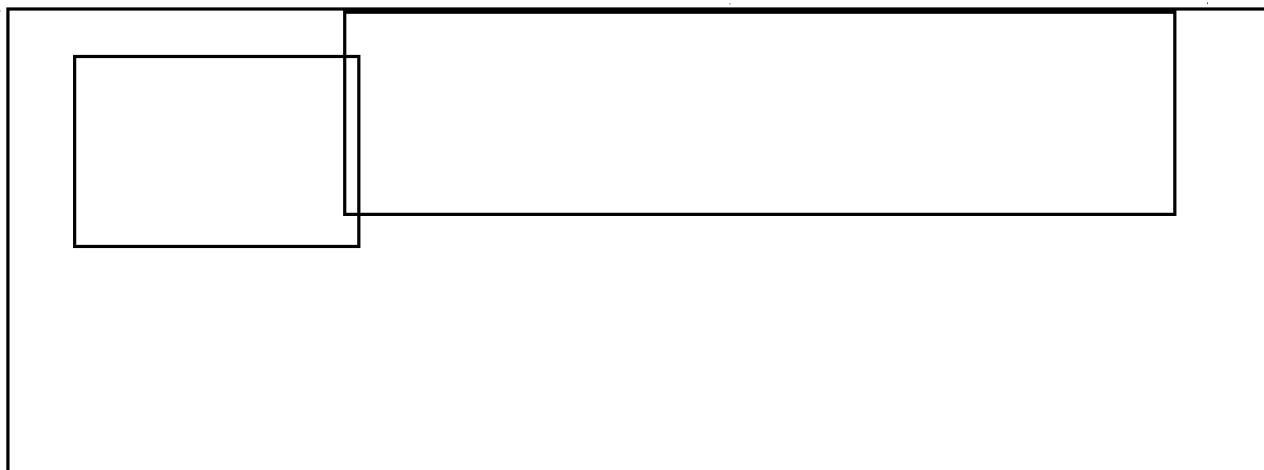
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Italy

Italian Communist Party chief Berlinguer yesterday called for a new government excluding the Christian Democratic Party. He proposed that President Pertini choose a prime minister - designate from another party to replace Christian Democratic leader Andreotti, who has been unable to forge a new cabinet. Berlinguer made the statement after meeting with Andreotti. 

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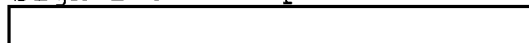
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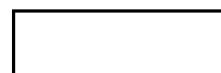
France-Canada

French Premier Barre's visit to Canada appears to have been a success, according to the US Embassy in Ottawa. The Canadians were pleased that Barre adhered to the "non-intervention but non-indifference" policy in regard to Quebec, and they feel that this attitude has given implicit support to the federal government's position on separation. Prime Minister Trudeau told the House of Commons that the visit "met all our hopes" and the Embassy concludes that there is now a base for significant improvement in French-Canadian relations.



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Venezuela


President Perez told the US Ambassador on Monday that he opposes a special OPEC meeting at this time to raise oil prices across-the-board because it would appear to be an attempt to take advantage of the Iranian situation. He added that although there is no formal initiative to call a special meeting, he was maintaining contact with other OPEC members. He acknowledged that Venezuela is losing some potential earnings because its oil is sold under long-term contracts at prices well below current spot market prices. the contracts permit price changes quarterly, however, and Venezuela will seek higher prices on 1 March for its crude oil. 

USSR-Norway

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Soviet Defense Minister Ustinov hosted a meeting with Norwegian Deputy Defense Minister Holst yesterday, according to a Western news service. TASS reported that the two men discussed questions of mutual interest.



COMMENT: *Norwegian-Soviet relations were strained last year, and Ustinov was probably continuing Soviet efforts to improve them.* 

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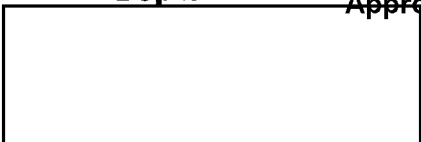


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